

**MINUTES
HARWICH REPUBLICAN TOWN COMMITTEE
MAY 16, 2019**

Present: Jan Bowers, Dick Bowers, Eric Carroll, Gayle Carroll, Linda Hughes, Peter Hughes, Beth Kelsey, Mike Kelsey, Fran Manzelli, Mary Ann Pina, Judith Sullivan, Pat Switchenko, Sally Urbano, Deborah Waugh and Robert Waugh.

Guests: Tom Sherry and Maria Alex

- 1) **Call to Order** – Chairman Peter Hughes called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM and led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- 2) **Minutes** – Minutes had previously been issued to the committee for the meeting on April 18, 2019 by Secretary Pat Switchenko. Deborah Waugh made a motion to accept the April minutes which was seconded by Linda Hughes. There was no discussion and the minutes were approved by all
- 3) **Treasurer's Report** – Treasurer Mary Ann Pina reported that the beginning balance was \$1,163.63. There were donations totaling \$100 as well as \$.10 in interest. The ending balance is \$1263.73. Pat Switchenko made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report, which was seconded by Gayle Carroll. There was no discussion and the report was approved by all.
- 4) **Old Business:**
 - a) **Harwich Voter Database and Letter** – Sally Urbano said that they were still trying to schedule a date for a meeting to discuss next steps with the Harwich Voter Database. Pat Switchenko agreed to work with Sally to utilize MailChimp, which would allow us to send one email to the entire data base. Currently, each email sent is limited to a maximum of 100 addresses so multiple emails are required.
 - b) **Website and Facebook** –Gayle Carroll continues to keep Facebook updated.
 - c) **Candidates Forum** – This session, which was jointly held by the Republican and Democratic Town Committees on May 4th, was well-attended and non-partisan.
 - d) **Town Meeting** - Town Meeting ended about 1 AM on Wednesday morning. Some articles that passed were briefly discussed. When asked, Chairman Hughes indicated that each speaker gets a maximum of ten minutes to present comments, and the Town Moderator is in charge of the meeting.
 - e) **Board of Registrars** - Susan Mills' position on the Harwich Board of Registrars expires on June 30, 2019. As decided at the last meeting, Chairman Hughes presented three names from the Harwich RTC as potential candidates to fill this position, who are Dot Hemmings-Bassett, Pat Switchenko and Gayle Carroll. The Board will make their decision in June.
 - f) **Operation Flags** - Operation Flags for Veterans will be held on Saturday, May 25th at 10 AM at Bourne National Cemetery. Eric Carroll, who will be attending, commented that there are 77,000 flags to be placed on the graves. He suggested that people arrive early to avoid parking far away.
 - g) **15th Annual Troops in the Spotlight** – This event will be held on Memorial Day weekend, starting Sunday, May 26th at 11:30 AM. Beth Kelsey has the schedule if anyone needs it. Food is served from noon – 2:45 PM and the parade begins at 3 PM. The closing ceremony is held on Monday.
 - h) **Celebration of Cancer Survivors** - Eric Carroll shared that this event will be held on June 9th (12 – 3 PM) at the Cape Codder. He will send information to Fran Manzelli to distribute to the Cape Cod Republican Club.
- 5) **New Business:**
 - a) **Membership Count** – Chairman Hughes received a letter from William Galvin, Secretary of the Commonwealth, on May 9th. As stated in the letter, the Harwich RTC has the opportunity to change our membership count downward for the March 3, 2020 primary. We are currently allowed 35 members and our potential range is 3 – 35. Chairman Hughes recommended that we keep our membership count at the same level of 35 and requested a motion. Judith Sullivan made a motion to keep our current

membership level at 35 members for the March 3, 2020 primary. Gayle Carrol seconded the motion and all voted in favor.

- b) **Maureen Healey** – Maureen has been in attendance of a minimum of three meetings and has been actively involved with the Harwich RTC. When asked, she was interested in joining our committee initially as an Associate Member. Deborah Waugh made a motion to approve Maureen Healey as an Associate Member which was seconded by Linda Hughes and approved by all.
- c) **Town Election** – The elections will be held Tuesday, May 21st. Rules have changed which now allow candidates to bring as many hand-held signs as they wish at the Harwich Community Center as long as they abide by the distance from the building regulations. There was discussion about some of the elections. It was suggested that those with Tom Sherry signs bring them to the community center on Election Day.
- d) **Annual CCRC Meeting** – Fran Manzelli reminded the membership that the annual CCRC meeting will be Sunday, June 2nd at 1 PM at the Riverway. Governor Baker will be the guest speaker and James Lyons, the new State Party Chair, will also be in attendance. The meeting will include the election of officers. From Harwich, both Chairman Hughes and Pat Switchenko will be on the ballot, for the Vice President and Treasurer positions, respectively. They, in addition to Beth Kelsey, have participated on the Annual Meeting committees.
- e) **Fundraiser** – Chairman Hughes presented dates for a fundraiser at First Crush Winery. The best dates were Saturday, September 28 and Saturday, October 19, which he will discuss with Frank Puzio. The following have volunteered to assist: Gayle Carroll, Deborah Waugh, Pat Switchenko, Eric Carroll and Beth Kelsey. Suggestions for speakers include Jeff Beatty and Dave Neal.
- f) **Straw Poll** – Beth Kelsey created a list of all Democratic Presential Candidates for the 2020 elections, which was the basis of our straw poll. Led by Chairman Hughes, he asked who we would vote for if we were Democrats. After a few rounds of voting, the winner was Tim Ryan, who is a representative from Ohio. There was follow-up discussion on the Republican and Independent primaries.

Next Meeting – The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 PM. The next meeting is scheduled on Thursday, June 20th, 2019 at 7 PM.

**Respectfully Submitted,
Pat Switchenko, Secretary
Harwich Republican Town Committee**